

Application No.: 10/606,100

Response to Office Action dated: March 13, 2008

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31. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 in which:

randomly associating with the multiple participants in the competition the numbers in the set of lottery numbers includes randomly assigning the numbers in the set of lottery numbers a car number corresponding to a car in a race; and

assigning as winning lottery numbers the random numbers assigned from the set of lottery numbers to the winners of the competition includes assigning as winning lottery numbers the random numbers assigned to the winners of the race.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 in which:

randomly associating with the multiple participants in the competition the numbers in the set of lottery numbers includes randomly assigning the numbers in the set of lottery numbers to individuals in a tournament; and

assigning as winning lottery numbers the random numbers assigned from the set of lottery numbers to the winners of the sporting event includes assigning as winning lottery numbers the random numbers assigned to the winners of the tournament.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 in which accepting multiple wagers from wagers includes accepting a wager including a group of picked numbers selected by a computer program or a group of picked numbers selected by a wagerer.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 in which accepting multiple wagers from wagerers includes accepting at least some wagers over a communication link.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 34 in which the communication link is selected from the group consisting of tickets, landline telephone, radio frequency, computer network, Internet, and World Wide Web.

Application No.: 10/606,100

Response to Office Action dated: March 13, 2008

36. (currently amended) Computer readable media including computer instructions

for carrying out the steps of ~~claim 28~~

accepting multiple wagers from wagerers, each wager including a group of picked numbers, the picked numbers being a subset of a set of available lottery numbers;

randomly associating with the multiple participants in the competition the numbers in the set of available lottery numbers after accepting the wagers from the wagerers, so that the wagerers do not know which participants are associated with the picked numbers when they are picked;

receiving the outcome of the competition;

after the competition is conducted and the outcome is determined, assigning as winning lottery numbers the random numbers from the set of lottery numbers associated with the winners of the competition; and

awarding a prize to a wagerer whose picked numbers correspond to the winning lottery numbers, the winning lottery numbers being determined by the outcome of the competition, and the wagerer not knowing at the time his numbers are picked which numbers will be associated with which participants so that the probability of a player winning the lottery is random..

37. (currently amended) A lottery system, comprising:

a computer processing unit;

a computer memory storing computer instructions for carrying out the steps of ~~claim 28~~;

accepting multiple wagers from wagerers, each wager including a group of picked numbers, the picked numbers being a subset of a set of available lottery numbers;

randomly associating with the multiple participants in the competition the numbers in the set of available lottery numbers after accepting the wagers from the

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wagerers, so that the wagerers do not know which participants are associated with the

picked numbers when they are picked;

receiving the outcome of the competition;

after the competition is conducted and the outcome is determined, assigning as
winning lottery numbers the random numbers from the set of lottery numbers associated
with the winners of the competition;

awarding a prize to a wagerer whose picked numbers correspond to the winning
lottery numbers, the winning lottery numbers being determined by the outcome of the
competition, and the wagerer not knowing at the time his numbers are picked which
numbers will be associated with which participants so that the probability of a player
winning the lottery is random..

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 13 in which entering wagering data D_W into a second lottery phase based upon the outcome of the comparing step includes entering wagering data into a second lottery phase having the lottery results determined by the concluding data D_C .

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 in which randomly associating with the multiple participants in the competition the numbers in the set of available lottery numbers includes randomly associating with multiple participants that have performed sufficiently well in a prequalifying even to obtain a place in a final event.